

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 15130 290830Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----001597 292100Z /62
R 290816Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0817

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 15130

USADB

EXDIS

FOR ASST SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

PASS TREASURYDEP FOR ASST SECRETARY BERGSTEN

EO 11652:GDS
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, ADB
SUBJECT: US REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ADB BOARD ACTION
- ON VIETNAMESE LOAN REACTIVATION

REF: (A) MANILA 14703, (B) MANILA 14858

1. VIETNAMESE ALTERNATE DIRECTOR LE DUC VAN CAME TO SEE ME TODAY UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM HANOI. HE STATED THAT (A) HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVED THAT THE ADB HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM; (B) THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM ATTRIBUTES THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE COUNTRY AND DID NOT WISH TO SEE THE ADB PROJECTS DELAYED; (C) HANOI FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSISTENCY BETWEEN THE REPORTED U.S. DESIRE TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS AND THE U.S. REQUEST TO THE BANK MANAGEMENT THAT THE ADB BOARD POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF THE LOAN REACTIVATIONS; AND (D) HANOI WANTED TO KNOW WHEN THE U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEE THE AGENDA ITEMS
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TAKEN UP BY THE BOARD.

2. MOST OF MY RESPONSES WERE A REITERATION OF THE CONVERSATION REFERRED TO IN PARA 2 OF MANILA'S 14703. I ALSO NOTED THAT HANOI'S CONCERNS OVER DELAYS IN THE REINSTITUTION OF IRRIGATION PROJECTS NOW SHOULD BE ALLEVIATED BY THE ADB PRESIDENT'S DECISION (REPORTED IN

MANILA'S 14858) TO MOVE AHEAD WITH THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MISSION TO VIETNAM AND NOT WAIT BEFORE SO DOING FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT. THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM IS EXPECTED TO REPORT BACK TO ADB MANILA BY MID-OCTOBER, AND I NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH I WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE A FIRM COMMITMENT, I WAS "CONFIDENT" THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE TO BOARD ACTION BY ABOUT THAT TIME.

3. LE DUC VAN STATED HE WOULD REPORT OUR CONVERSATION TO "HIS AUTHORITIES." EDMOND

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Draft Date: 29 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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